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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Is the hon. Minister aware that this Cole Dispensary is itself a medical school for women and that the patients going there are charged not only for consultation, but for everything? It is more or less a nursing institute and it is this mission that the Government is going to subsidize. Is it the policy of Government to subsidize these private nursing institutes?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Nursing is also done there and if the hon. Member assumes certain things in putting questions, I am afraid, I cannot answer."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"In answer to clause (b), it is stated that five lakhs has been sanctioned for the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college for women. Did the Government examine the income of the concern before they decided to make a grant?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"The college is not yet established and it can have no income before it is established."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know from the hon. Minister if the Cole Dispensary has anything to do with the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Probably the patients in the Cole Dispensary may be supplied the necessary clinical material."

Mr G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"So, may I know whether the estimated income from the 'hospital' which occurs in the words 'combined hospital and medical college for women' will be utilized for its maintenance?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Whether the hospital which is going to be established will produce income or not, I am not in a position to say. The grant now made is not for the maintenance of the institution, but for the building of the hospital."

Appointment of assistant surgeons.

* 822 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what was the number of applicants for the Assistant Surgeon's post;

(b) how many of them were Brahmans, non-Brahmans and Muslims;

(c) the number of assistant surgeons selected this year and how many of them are Brahmans and Muhammadans;

(d) whether, in view of the very poor representations and the assurance given by the hon. the Minister on previous occasions, the Government will consider the claims of the existing graduates of the Muhammadan community for immediate appointments as assistant surgeons; and

(e) the number of house surgeons with and without allowance recruited this year and the number of Muhammadans and Brahmans in each case?

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A.—(*a*) Thirty-six candidates appeared for the competitive examination held this year for the selection of assistant surgeons.

(*b*)

Brahmans	23
Non-Brahman Hindus	7
Indian Christians	6
Muhammadans	Nil.
Total ...	36

(*c*)

Brahmans	11
Non-Brahman Hindus	6
Indian Christians	1
Muhammadans	Nil.
Total ...	18

(*d*) As far as the Government are aware there is only one Muhammadan medical graduate available. He has recently been given a paid house surgeoncy in the General Hospital, Madras. The question of his appointment as an assistant surgeon can, under existing rules, be considered only after the next competitive examination has been held.

(*e*) The Board selected 44 candidates on the whole for the panel of house surgeons, house physicians and demonstrators. Only one Muhammadan appeared before the Board. Of the forty-four selected, one (a Brahman) did not join and another (a non-Brahman) resigned. The remaining 42 candidates were distributed as follows :—

Name of community.	Number appointed as paid house surgeons.	Number appointed as unpaid house surgeons.	Number appointed as demonstrators.	Total.
Brahmans	5	16	6	27
Non-Brahman Hindus ..	3	4	3	10
Indian Christians ..	1	2	1	4
Muhammadans	1	..	..	1
Total ..	10	22	10	42

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"May I ask the hon. Minister what he means by the answer? Clause (*a*) of the question wants to know what was the number of applicants for the Assistant Surgeon's post. The answer given is thirty-six candidates appeared for the competitive examination. I want to know whether the number of applicants were 36 or the candidates selected by Government were 36?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I am afraid, Mr. President, I will have to give a rather lengthy answer to this question. According to the orders of Government, any person who wishes to be employed in Government service as Assistant Surgeon has to undergo a period of training as house surgeon or physician in any recognized hospital in Madras or any of the Government institutions. After that he has

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to pass an examination which will be prescribed. Thirty-six such candidates appeared for the examination and from among that 36, persons who are to be selected for appointment have to be chosen."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"May I know from the hon. Minister whether there was not one Muslim candidate for selection ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"There was no Muslim at all among the 36 candidates selected last year. Among the candidates for selection this year, a Muslim candidate appeared for selection as house surgeon and he has been selected."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"May I know whether in the case of two other members of different communities, examination was not held with regard to house surgeons ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"As regards the two candidates about whom the hon. Member said they were exempted, they were not exempted from examination. They had to undergo the examination, but they were exempted from being house surgeons during 1927–28, since they had served before."

11-15 a.m. Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR :—"With reference to answer to clause (c), may I know the total number of applicants ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Forty-six."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—"With reference to answer (c), may I know whether the appointments were made strictly following the results of the competetive examination, or whether other matters were taken into consideration ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Half the number was appointed according to the results of the examination and the other half was appointed taking into consideration the claims of the various communities."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—"If that was the case, may I know why only one Indian Christian out of six, six out of seven non-Brahmans and eleven out of twenty-three Brahmans were appointed ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"In making these appointments we had to pay attention to the communities to which the various applicants belonged, the districts from where they came and the result of the examination. The combined result of all this is this."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"If that was the case, may I know why, when there was only one Muslim candidate available, he was not nominated out of the five ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"My friend will refer to the first part of the answer. I am afraid he did not follow the answers already given. According to the present arrangement those that have been now appointed have served the period of house surgeoncy and they were those selected in the examination held early in 1928. For 1928–29 only one Muhammadan has been selected and he has recently been given a paid house surgeoncy in the General Hospital and his chance for appointment will come only in 1929"

Mr ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"When was the examination held ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"In April or May last."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" When was the appointment made ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" In July or August."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" When was this particular Muhammadan given the paid house.surgeoncy ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" In April or May, and from that date the period is counted."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I am rather puzzled by the answers given by the hon. the Minister . . . ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will not be allowed to preface his questions with such remarks."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the test for selection merit or communal basis ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" If the hon. Member had followed the answers already given he would not have put this question. I said that it consists partly of merit, partly from which district they come and to which community they belong."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the hon. the Minister aware that there is deterioration in the present staff due to their method of selection ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" No. Government do not admit it. There is no such deterioration."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (*c*), may I know what are the principles which governed them when they appointed six non-Brahman Hindus, one Indian Christian and nil Muhammadan ; whether it is on the principle of community or district from which they come or that of examination ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" All put together. (Laughter)."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In what proportion ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Half as a result of the competitive examination and half on the other basis."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know how many Brahmans, non-Brahman Hindus, Indian Christians and Muhammadans were selected on the basis of examination and how many on that of community and district ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Notice."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" If this be the proportion contemplated, may I know what they have done to safeguard the claims of the Oriyas ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know whether among the selected there is any Oriya. I do not think that is a community by itself. Only when it is recognized as a community will that be taken notice of."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know whether Government received a representation that the Oriyas have not got the benefit of being classified under any community, i.e., that they are getting nothing as they come under neither Brahmans, non-Brahmans or any other community and that they do not fall under any of the categories."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Notice."